

Operational Backup Plan – Vehicle Removal Team

Coutts/Milk River Protest

Last Revised – 2022-03-04

Version 2

Situation

Protest in the Coutts/Milk River area, Alberta - As of 2022-03-01 the V.R.T. (Vehicle Removal Team) has dis-engaged from the Coutts and Milk River Protest Operation. All Tow vehicles have been returned to G.O.A (Government of Alberta) storage lot in Lethbridge Alberta and all team members have returned to their home units.

Objective & Purpose of Document

To highlight a backup plan and remain in a state of readiness should the need develop to tow or move any vehicles, including semi trucks, farm tractors, and/or implements from roadways due to blockades and or protests in the near future in the Coutts/Milk River area or any other area of the Province. The original Operations Plan for Tactical Towing should be referred to for specific towing protocol.

Location of Tow Vehicles

From 2022-Mar-01 to 2022-Mar-31, all GOA Tow Vehicles will remain parked at the GOA storage lot located at 505 30th Street North in Lethbridge AB. It is likely that after March 31st, the vehicles will be moved to an Edmonton facility at which time this document should be updated.

Code to open gate (on right side panel of the 2 panels) is **Personal Info.**

Lethbridge GOA Storage yard Contact: **Personal Info.**

Tow Vehicle Custodians and Contacts

	Name	Organization	Cell #	Office #
Primary	Personal Info.	AB Transportation	Personal Info.	403.388.1280
Secondary		AB Sheriffs		
Management		AB Justice and Sol Gen		780.427.6665

Tow Vehicles / Equipment List

Equipment
2007 Freightliner M2, Flat bed VIN 1FVACYDJ26HV42311
2010 Dodge Ram 3500 Tow Truck VIN 3D6WG4EL9AG114361
2002 International 4300 Medium Tow Truck VIN 1GDKC34F3TJ505699
1996 GMC 3500 Tow Truck VIN 1GDKC34F3TJ505699
1998 Freightliner Classic, Heavy Tow Truck VIN 1FUPDDYB5WP945857
Komatsu 61PX dozer,

16ft low boy flat deck trailer
Western Star Tri Drive 2008
Peterbilt 2006 Tandem Axle Winch
Tridem axle trailer
Case 621B loader with bucket

VRT Experienced Managers and Commanders

The VRT is typically led by a Commander or line of Commanders. The Commanders listed below have a background of managing the VRT and some have Class 1 or 3 drivers licences and knowledge specific to Heavy Trucks and equipment. Commanders from the below noted list should be considered when VRT is being urgently deployed.

VRT Management and Commanders

Name	Posting	Phone #
Inspector Lee BRACHMANN	OIC Lloydminster	Irrelevant
S/Sgt James MORTON	EAD DANCO	
S/Sgt Chris ZANIDEAN	SAD DANCCO	
Sgt Farid SIDDIQUI	IBET Calgary	
Sgt. Robert HARMS	Claresholm GD	

VRT Trained and Experienced Members

It must be noted that the previously established VRT members underwent hands on training and equipment familiarization sessions. These team members are to be utilized for urgent re-deployments as no training and orientation should be required. Further to this, it was determined that having 1 member deployed with the tow team in an ORT (Object Removal Team) van / tool van was most beneficial. The following are identified as experienced VRT members:

Drivers / Tow Operators (list to be updated by DEOC with additional team members)

Name	Posting	Phone #
Sgt Farid SIDDIQUI	IBET Calgary	Irrelevant
Cpl Holly LEFRANCOIS	Hinton GD/GIS	
Cst Chris KIRBY	Redcliff Traffic	
Cpl Rylee GUCKERT	Coaldale Traffic Recon	
Sgt. Scott MCAULEY	Sherwood Park Det	
Sgt Brandon HUMBKE	Edmonton GIS	
Sheriff Glenn MUNDEN	Stettler Scales	
Cst Ben STUBBE	Fort MacLeod GD	
Cst Jason LAGRANGE	CAD Traffic	Irrelevant
Cpl Kevin NICHOLLS	Elk Point Traffic	
Cpl Gary LEBLANC	Fort McMurray Traffic	
Joe KAUZULIN	Edmonton Transit	
Cst. Dalton ROUSE	Westlock GD	
Cst. Dwayne PARDY	Grande Prairie Traffic	

Cst. Roman BARIL	Sherwood Park GD	Irrelevant	
Insp. Dan MCCORMACK	Alberta Sheriffs		

ORT Operators (list to be updated by DEOC with additional team members)

Name	Posting	Phone #
Cst. Matthew WIESE	Olds GD and STO	Irrelevant
Cpl. Curtis HARSULLA	St. Albert Traffic Unit	

Storage and Compounds for Seized Vehicles

The following Tow companies have agreed to assist in some capacities including towing if area is secure and or free of protests and storage.

Company	Location	Contact
TNT Towing and Salvage (passenger vehicles)	218 36 Street North, Lethbridge	Personal Info.
Ken Hauck Towing (commercial vehicles)	601 Old Trans Canada Way, Redcliff	
ATR Logistics Ltd (passenger and commercial)	125 East Lake Blvd., Airdrie AB	

Procedure and Response Guideline

The following serves as a procedure and guideline should re-activation of the VRT be required.

1. A Commander or line of Commanders should be selected from the VRT Management and Commander List above.
2. Commander or delegate should contact **Personal Info.**, Tow Vehicle Custodian, at **Personal** to initiative permission and notification of need for equipment deployment. Location of equipment, keys, and fuel cards to be confirmed.
3. Commander or delegate should contact GOA Yard rep, **Personal Info.**, to advise of deployment and intent to retrieve equipment from GOA yard.
4. Commander or delegate to deploy required number of VRT members. Deployment may include directly to the Tow Vehicles location or to the scene as driving seized vehicles remains more advantageous than towing.
5. Depending on the situation and location, it may be beneficial to re-secure a Drop Zone. This would include seeking permissions and members to secure the zone.
6. Depending on the situation and location, it may be beneficial to store seized vehicles at any of the above noted compounds – the tow companies may be in a position to assist with towing directly from scene or drop zone.
7. Latest Operations Plan for VRT to be considered for all tactical towing operations.

Barriers and Expected Challenges

1. Most Tow Vehicles became subject to CVIP inspections as of March 1st, 2022. An arrangement was made with Sgt. HARMS that only 1 vehicle at a time will be pulled out of service for the CVIP process. With that said, as soon as 1 vehicle is completed the next will be taken out of service immediately thereafter for the CVIP in an effort to bring all tow vehicles into CVIP compliance quickly.
2. Tow vehicles will be held at the Lethbridge GOA lot until March 31st, 2022 to facilitate any need for the equipment in the southern part of the province / borders until then. The GOA yard does not have security systems in place other than a fenced yard. After March 31st, the tow vehicles will be moved to an Edmonton facility but still remain available to RCMP. Depending on the date and location of the problem site, delays should be expected to gather tow equipment.
3. VRT members are scattered across the province. Delays deploying VRT members should be expected. The contact list shows geographical location of each VRT member which may be beneficial to deploying closest members.
4. Tow Operators / compounds have experienced harassment and threats from protestors causing mixed thoughts and change of minds in relation to assisting with VRT operations. Tow Operators and compounds should be contacted again at onset of deployment to verify involvement and level of assistance.

Sgt. Robert HARMS

VRT member

Irrelevant

2022-03-04

